COMPUTER STANDARDS | PA Class of 2020

EVMS is committed to utilizing new and emerging learning technologies that enhance and facilitate learning opportunities and outcomes and continually monitors, evaluates, and improves the curriculum to provide the best possible educational program.

For incoming students to take advantage of the ever-changing technology, COMPUTER STANDARDS have been set for the students matriculating January 2018. Each incoming student will need to have a personal laptop computer capable of running the necessary software and applications used in our curriculum. The standards are the minimum necessary for a student to successfully participate in the curriculum during the 28-month program.

Because of the variability in computer manufacturers, hardware, software, etc., the EVMS Network Center will only provide support for installing the necessary software to ensure compliance with and access to the EVMS wireless network access. The Network Center is not able to provide support or troubleshooting for hardware or software/application support. All support, troubleshooting, and updates will be the student’s responsibility; therefore, purchase of a service plan for your computer is strongly recommended.

EVMS Financial Aid offers students a method of increasing their cost of attendance budget in order to assist in reimbursement of their laptop purchase, if needed. It is not necessary to increase your budget unless you need additional funding to cover those increased expenses. The Budget Adjustment Allowances policy is available online and provides in part:

**Personal Computer** – Adjustments for the purchase of a personal computer (PDA excluded) will be made once during the student’s academic career, not to exceed $1,700. Expenses will be added to the cost of the student budget upon receipt of a written request from the student and documentation of the expenses paid by student.

The Budget Increase Request Form is available on the EVMS Financial Aid webpages here. **CAUTION**: All loan funds are divided in equal disbursements and released on the first day of each term. Any computer purchased which meets the guidelines and properly documented is eligible for a budget increase. If you have questions about financial aid or the budget increase process, please contact EVMS Financial Aid at finaid@evms.edu or 757.446.5804.

We understand that choices in computer manufacturer and operating system are personal choices and every effort has been made to provide for such flexibility, however, the computer MUST meet the minimum specifications. **As such, “netbooks”, Chromebooks, iPads, and other tablets will not meet these requirements and cannot be relied on as sufficient to fulfill this requirement for incoming students.** Information about student expectations and responsibilities will be provided at interviews.

Questions about this policy should be directed to the PA Program (paprogram@evms.edu | 757.446.7158).
MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS for the PA PROGRAM

• LAPTOP (preferably no more than 2 years old)
  
  NOTE: Netbooks, Chromebooks, iPads and other tablets are not viable choices to meet the standards
  
  o Processor: minimum dual core
  o RAM: minimum 4 GB
  o Screen Resolution: 1280 x 720 (720p)
  o HDMI output recommended
  o Wireless cards: 802.11 a/b/g/n (ac compatibility recommended)
  o Recommended Service Plan: minimum 28-months

• OPERATING SYSTEM: Windows 7 (32 or 64 bit) Home Premium (or higher) is recommended
  
  NOTE: Windows 7 – 10 and MacOSX 10.9.x – 10.12.x will meet the requirements to access the campus network and are officially supported at this time.

  IMPORTANT: the Network Information Center recommends that students do not upgrade operating systems without prior confirmation of institutional compatibility.

• BROWSER: PC: Microsoft Internet Explorer (version 11), Firefox* or Chrome
  Mac: Safari version 5.1.7 or higher
  
  NOTE: The Network Information Center HIGHLY RECOMMENDS that students do not use beta versions of any browser.

  * Firefox is the suggested browser for viewing recordings on the EVMS video portal which also requires the Microsoft Silverlight plugin

• SOFTWARE: Software programs required for the EVMS network access and functionality on campus are provided on the myEVMS portal as “Student Software Download”
  
  o Microsoft Office 2013 Standard Edition or higher*
  o Adobe Reader DC, Acrobat DC or Acrobat Pro DC

  *Free access to Office 365 for Education may be obtained after enrollment in the PA program

• OPTIONAL Recommended Items:
  
  o External Storage device (large capacity jump drive or external drive) for data backup
  o CD/DVD drive (external or internal)

Questions?? Contact the PA Program (paprogram@evms.edu | 757.446.7158)